

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

LETTER OF RECOGNITION FOR 2013 CRITICAL LANGUAGE SCHOLAR- SHIP RECIPIENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Grace Meng, a resident of Vienna, Virginia, who is a recipient of the 2013 Critical Language Scholarship.

The Critical Language Scholarship Program was established in 2006 by the Department of State as part of an effort to train American young people in languages that are critical to our nation's global interests. For three months, attendees are immersed in an intensive cultural environment that teaches a new language, new culture, and new sense of self. The CLS program is remarkably competitive; in 2013 nearly 4,000 students from around the country applied, but only 597 were accepted. Due to her impressive academic success, I am proud to say that Grace Meng was one of those chosen.

Participants in the Critical Language Scholarship Program do more than simply enrich their own appreciation of a foreign culture. Their deep understanding of these critical regions ensures that our nation has capable individuals that can work on issues vital to the interests of the United States. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the service of Grace Meng, and in wishing her heartfelt congratulations on her achievements.

EXCHANGE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3362. It's very important for the administration to disclose data on enrollments in coverage through the health care Marketplaces, at the same frequency as it does for Medicare, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and other federal programs. In fact, Monday's monthly report provided extensive national and State-by-State data for December, breaking it down by gender, age, and financial assistance status of new enrollees, as well as the levels of coverage selected. Today's bill is not about enhancing data disclosure in the Marketplaces. Rather, its goal appears to be to tie the hands of State and federal agencies with unnecessary, unrealistic requirements, and delay their efforts to enroll people in quality, affordable coverage. I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

HONORING THE NON-DENOMINA- TION HOUSE OF PRAYER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable Christian organization, The Non-Denomination House of Prayer.

The Non-Denomination House of Prayer was founded in 1948 by Pastor Charity Waffer in the historical city of Mound Bayou, Mississippi. Pastor Waffer was the first female pastor in the Mississippi Delta. As a pastoral pioneer she was instrumental in opening doors for women and youths through various church auxiliaries and functions. Her leadership guided many to various freedoms and liberties.

The current overseer is Dr. Earnestine Flowers which over sees other churches in Mississippi with the communities of Duncan, Batesville, Sardis, Oxford and in Chicago, Illinois. The Non-Denomination House of Prayer in the City of Mound Bayou current ministerial leaders are Pastor Willie Joe Flowers, Assistant Pastor Carl Henry, and Minister Martha Sanders.

They have increased the church membership and have embarked on renovating and expanding their facilities in order to continue to be a blessing to its members, community, and surrounding communities by being able to be a place of refuge to those who are hungry physically and spiritually and by offering comprehensive programs to meet the needs of others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Non-Denomination House of Prayer for their dedication in being a corner stone in the Mound Bayou Community.

LETTER OF RECOGNITION FOR 2013 CRITICAL LANGUAGE SCHOLAR- SHIP RECIPIENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Christopher Haberland, a resident of Herndon, Virginia, who is a recipient of the 2013 Critical Language Scholarship.

The Critical Language Scholarship Program was established in 2006 by the Department of State as part of an effort to train American young people in languages that are critical to our nation's global interests. For three months, attendees are immersed in an intensive cultural environment that teaches a new language, new culture, and new sense of self. The CLS program is remarkably competitive; in 2013 nearly 4,000 students from around the country applied, but only 597 were accepted. Due to his impressive academic success, I am

proud to say that Christopher Haberland was one of those chosen.

Participants in the Critical Language Scholarship Program do more than simply enrich their own understanding and appreciation of a foreign culture. Their deep understanding of these critical regions ensures that our nation has capable individuals that can work on issues vital to the interests of the United States. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the service of Christopher Haberland, and in wishing him heartfelt congratulations on his achievements.

HONORING MS. JOAN WILLIAMS

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Ms. Joan Williams. A lifelong community leader, Ms. Williams is being honored with the Martin Luther King Community Service Award on January 23rd for her unending service to our city and its people.

Since her graduation from Lincoln University in 1971, Ms. Williams has been a force for change. Professionally, Ms. Williams worked in the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights from 1972 to 2006, eventually becoming a Senior Equal Opportunity Specialist, investigating discrimination complaints regarding elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education programs. She now serves as the First Vice President & Director of Programs & Projects for the West Philadelphia Coalition of Neighborhoods and Businesses. In this role, Ms. Williams acts as a liaison between businesses and corporations and community members seeking employment, working to help all of her neighbors achieve better circumstances.

Ms. Williams was also instrumental in establishing the Community Advisory Committee, which serves as an oversight committee for the Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Service Center, making the Center safe and of assistance to the community. For her personal and professional work, Ms. Williams has received many awards, including, but not limited to, the 190th Legislative District Image Award from State Representative Vanessa Lowery Brown and the Community Service Award from the Henry Hill Post 385 American Legion. On reflecting on Ms. Williams's long history of working for social justice, I cannot think of someone more deserving of this year's Martin Luther King Community Service Award.

It is a privilege to recognize a person whose leadership and commitment to our city has enriched the lives of countless individuals. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Ms. Williams for her lifetime of service and dedication to Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

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